NewportCare Medical Group

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ARTHROSCOPIC LATERAL RELEASE REHABILITATION PROTOCOL

| | WEIGHT BEARING | BRACE | ROM | THERAPEUTIC EXERCISES |
|------------------------------------|---|-------|--|--|
| PHASE I 0 - 2 weeks | As tolerated with crutches | None | As tolerated | Heel slides, quad/hamstring sets, patellar mobilization in all quadrants, prone hangs, gastroc/soleus stretch*, Straight leg raising, edema control |
| PHASE II 2 - 6 weeks | Gradually discontinue crutch use | None | Maintain full extension and progressive flexion | Progress to normal gait pattern, gastroc/soleus stretch, begin toe raises, closed chain extension, balance exercises, hamstring curls, and stationary bike |
| PHASE III 6 weeks - 3 months | Full, without use of crutches and with a normalized gait pattern | None | Gain full and pain-free | Advance closed chain strengthening, progress proprioception activities, begin Stairmaster/Nordic Trac and running straight ahead |
| PHASE IV 3 months and beyond | Full | None | Full and pain-free | Progress flexibility/strengthening, progression of function: forward/ backward running, cutting, grapevine, etc., initiate plyometric program and sport-specific drills Gradual return to sports participation, maintenance program for strength and endurance |

^{*} This exercise is to be performed in a non-weight bearing position